**Waste recycling industries operating in India**

3065. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of lead and battery scrap and toxic lead waste recycling industries operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) what are their installed capacity, State-wise; and

(c) whether these industries have been cleared by Pollution Controlling Authorities?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Memorandum by Kerala State Bamboo Corporation**

3066. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala State Bamboo Corporation Ltd. had submitted a memorandum to Government requesting it to place more orders with it for bamboo mats, etc.

(b) the action taken by Government on their request, details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Corporation could not compete with private suppliers who do not take care of workers interest;

(d) whether the Corporation had requested for relaxation of or waiver of tender procedure in respect of them for procuring bamboo mats by FCI, Central Warehousing Corporation, etc.

(e) the action being taken by Government to patronise this Government undertaking; and

(f) if so, the action taken and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The Government undertakings are procuring materials strictly as per approved norms specified in their purchase manual and as per Government guidelines. Open tender enquiry is made for a purchase of more than Rs. One lakh and the tender is decided on the basis of rate, quality, capacity and credibility of the supplier.

The Central Warehousing Corporation through open tenders during 1996-97 has entered into annual rate contract with M/s. Kerala State Bamboo Corporation Limited for supply of Bamboo Mats during the period from 08.07.96 to 07.07.97. As for Food Corporation of India, the regional Offices make their own purchases of bamboo mats as per their requirements through tenders.

Waiver of tender procedure is not feasible, as it will be a deviation from the established guidelines of the Government. The price preference available to public sector undertakings has been withdrawn and even the purchase preference to which the public sector undertakings were entitled to was also valid upto 31.03.1997.

**Cement packing in jute bags**

3067. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether A.P. Cement Producer's Associations have represented that cement packing in jute bags result in seepage loss; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to exempt cement industry from the compulsory use of jute bags?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) A number of Cement Manufacturers and their Associations, some Mini Cement Manufacturers' Associations based in A.P., have represented about seepage loss of cement packed in jute bags.

(b) The representations have been considered by the Standing Advisory Committee constituted under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. The Government will take a final decision after considering the recommendations of the said committee.